

Haider is the lone survivor

WYCOMBE Wanderers' new centre half and captain Alan Phillips, returns to his old club tonight (Tuesday) when the Blues visit Hendon at Claremont Road in the Rothmans Isthmian League.

But it will hardly be a case of Phillips playing against his old team-mates, for Hendon have only one regular member of last year's side that was possibly one of the best ever amateur football teams.

The sole survivor of the side that drew 1-1 at Newcastle in the F.A. Cup on that memorable day, is captain Rod Haider. All

the others have left for different clubs.

Goalkeeper John Swannell quit the club after a long spell and is now playing for Leatherhead while Peter Deadman, their England defender, signed for Ilford. Another player who decided to join Ilford is Gary Hand, full back. Johnny Baker, an extremely talented striker, is now playing for Dulwich Hamlet while Keiron Somers and Roger Connell are

with Southern Leaguers Wimbledon.

Hendon's great side began to split up last season when three players — Tony Jennings, Phil Fry and Derek Baker — switched to Enfield. Most of the other players left in the close season.

To fill the places, Hendon have brought several of last year's reserve team into the side and signed on a handful of new players. Bobby Southam of Corinthian Casuals has joined

while coloured striker James came from Hayes. In goal is A. Paisley, Swannell's understudy for several seasons. Vic Cogger, a veteran forward who had played for a string of Isthmian clubs, is also at Claremont Road.

Hendon must have realised their weakness when they staged their two pre-season friendlies. They lost 2-0 to Wealdstone and then could only draw 0-0 with Boreham Wood, the newcomers to the Rothmans Isthmian League, Division Two.

However, Hendon's results in their league matches to date have been promising. They held Hayes to a 1-1 draw and then beat Hitchin Town with a goal from Cogger. Southam scored against Hayes.

Wycombe's scheduled Rothmans Isthmian League match against Oxford City on September 3 has been postponed. Oxford are staging a match against the Rest of the League on that date. The League XI will be made up of one player from each club in Division One and Wycombe's representative is Alan Phillips. Wanderers boss Brian Lee has been asked to manage the side.

Owing to the London Senior Cup, which involves almost every club in Division One, the Blues will not be playing a league match on September 28. Instead they will visit Whelton Rovers, the Western League champions.

The match was originally planned to be part of the Rothmans "Champions of Champions" competition. However, the F.A. have refused permission for this to take place. Rothmans and Wycombe, however, are still anxious to play the match on an ordinary 'friendly' basis.